



## **USDA Export Verification (EV) Program Specified Product Requirements for Beef - Costa Rica**

### **1 Purpose**

This document provides the specified product requirements for marketing U.S. boneless beef and offal to Costa Rica under the USDA Export Verification (EV) Program.

### **2 Scope**

These requirements apply to U.S. suppliers (slaughterers, fabricators, and processors) of boneless beef and offal items that are eligible for export to Costa Rica as listed on the FSIS Export website. Companies must meet the specified product requirements for Costa Rica under the EV Program through an approved USDA QSA Program. The requirements for the QSA Program are defined in *ARC 1002 Procedure, Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program*. The QSA Program ensures that the specified product requirements are supported by a documented quality management system.

Only companies with an approved USDA QSA Program for the EV Program for Costa Rica may label and sell product as meeting the specified product requirements for Costa Rica under the EV Program.

### **3 Reference Documents**

*ARC 1000 Procedure, Quality Systems Verification Program General Policies and Procedures*

*ARC 1002 Procedure, Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program*

[http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_&Policies/export\\_information/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/export_information/index.asp)

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/arc/bevlisting.htm>

### **4 Specified Product Requirements**

4.1 The boneless beef and offal must meet the following requirements:

4.1.1 Be derived from animals less than 30 months of age; and

4.1.2 Does not contain the following SRM tissues: skull, brain, eyes, tonsils, trigeminal ganglia, distal ileum, vertebral column (excluding the vertebrae of the tail, the transverse processes of the thoracic and lumbar vertebrae), spinal cord, dorsal root ganglia, or intestines.

4.2 Shipping documentation (bills of lading, shipping manifests, or letters of guarantee) must have the statement "Product Meets EV Program Requirements for Costa Rica" and must clearly identify the product and product quantity.

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## **5 Listing of Approved Programs**

U.S. companies who generate products that meet the specified product requirements for Costa Rica are listed on the *Official Listing of Eligible Suppliers to Export for Costa Rica*.

## **6 Responsibilities**

U.S. suppliers must meet all policies and procedures outlined in this Procedure, *ARC 1000 Procedure, Quality Systems Verification Program General Policies and Procedures*, and *ARC 1002 Procedure, Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program*.